

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 685

INFO /USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 571

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 0212

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR KS KN GH

SUBJ: LETTER FROM COMMISSIONER FELLI TO SECRETARY KISSINGER

IN REFERENCE TO GHANAIAI VOTE ON KOREAN ISSUE

REF: (A) 75 ACCRA 7718 (B) 75 STATE 291976

THE EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED FROM THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS A MUCH BELATED RESPONSE TO THE AMBASSADOR'S DEMARCHE OF NOVEMBER 19 REPORTED IN REFTEL (A) CONCERNING THE FAILURE OF GHANA TO ABSTAIN ON THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION. THE TEXT FOLLOWS. ORIGINAL IS BEING POUCHED TO S/S.

QUOTE:

DEAR MR. SECRETARY:

1. WHEN AMBASSADOR SHIRLEY TEMPLE BLACK CALLED ON ME RECENTLY TO EXPRESS DISAPPOINTMENT OVER GHANA'S VOTING IN THE PLENARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE KOREAN ITEM ON A LINE CONTRARY TO THAT SUGGESTED BY MY LETTER NO. SCR.PO/KO OF 30TH OCTOBER, 1975, TO YOU, I ASKED HER TO CONVEY MY PERSONAL REGRET TO YOU OVER THE INCIDENT AND TO INFORM YOU THAT AFTER THE NECESSARY INVESTIGATION HAS BEEN MADE I SHALL COMMUNICATE WITH YOU ON
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THE MATTER.

2. MY INSTRUCTIONS WHICH WERE SENT FOLLOWING YOUR REPRESENTATIONS WERE RECEIVED IN NEW YORK WHEN VOTING HAD ALREADY TAKEN PLACE IN THE COMMITTEE, AND IN THE CIRCUMSTANCE THE GHANA VOTE WAS BASED ON THE POSITION WE HAD TAKEN PREVIOUSLY AS CO-SPONSORS TO ANOTHER DRAFT RESOLUTION. MY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE CABLED TO EXPLAIN THE LATE ARRIVAL OF MY INSTRUCTIONS AND THE ACTION THAT GHANA HAD CONSEQUENTLY HAD TO TAKE. IT WAS MY EXPECTATION THAT THE NEW INSTRUCTIONS WOULD BE FOLLOWED DURING THE VOTING IN THE PLENARY, WHILE THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE HAD ASSUMED THAT THE EXPLANATIONS THAT HE HAD CABLED EARLIER AND THE ACTION THAT HAD BEEN TAKEN IN COMMITTEE HAD BEEN ACCEPTED AS MAKING IT IMPOLITIC FOR GHANA TO CHANGE A NEGATIVE VOTE IN COMMITTEE TO ABSTENTION IN PLENARY. IN SHORT THE SITUATION THAT DEVELOPED AROSE OUT OF A COMMUNICATION LAPSE BETWEEN ACCRA AND THE MISSION IN NEW YORK.

3. THE EARLIER EXCHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN US BEING OUR FIRST SINCE MY ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE AS COMMISSIONER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS FOR GHANA, I AM NATURALLY PERSONALLY DISAPPOINTED OVER THIS INCIDENT AND, AS I EXPLAINED TO YOUR AMBASSADOR, I VERY DEEPLY REGRET THE OCCURRENCE.

4. LET ME REITERATE THAT FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND GHANA IS ONE THAT I DEEPLY VALUE AND WHICH IT WOULD BE MY TASK TO PROMOTE TO THE UTMOST LIMITS OF MY ABILITY WHILE IN THIS OFFICE. IN THIS REGARD YOU CAN REST ASSURED THAT COMMITMENTS FORMALLY MADE WILL BE KEPT AND I AM SURE THAT INCIDENTS SUCH AS I NOW WRITE ABOUT WILL NOT OCCUR IN FUTURE.

5. MAY I ALSO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ASSURE YOU THAT AMBASSADOR BOATEN IN WHO I HAVE THE FULLEST OF CONFIDENCE HAS GOODWILL TOWARDS THE UNITED STATES AND WILL CONTINUE TO CO-OPERATE WITH YOUR REPRESENTATIVES IN NEW YORK AS HE HAS BEEN DOING THROUGHOUT HIS TENURE AT THE UNITED NATIONS.

6. IN ASSURING YOU OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION, LET ME ALSO WISH YOU A VERY PROSPEROUS AND REWARDING NEW YEAR.

WARM REGARDS,
/S/ COLONEL R.J.A. FELLI

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COMMISSIONER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

UNQUOTE.
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